

## J. E. DEGROOT



1892—Born at Hastings, Mich., of Holland-Dutch parentage.

1898-1901—Attended school at Shelbyville, Ind.

1901-1909—Moved to Indianapolis, Ind., and attended grade and high school. Worked in a furniture factory after school and on Saturdays.

1909-1910—Left school and engaged in the automobile industry. Worked in the assembling room at the National Auto plant.

1910-1915—Acquired a position with the Hobbs-Merrill Co., wholesale book establishment. Worked up to shipping clerk.

1915-1915—Heard of prospects in the 5 and 10c business. Made application. Received a position as stockman at store No. 7, Indianapolis, Ind. Worked up to assistant manager.

1915—Transferred to Detroit store No. 1, under management of W. F. Lents, to whom credit is given for the splendid training received. Sent to Muskatine, Ia., and Quincy, Ill., to help with inventories. Called back to Detroit office to help refigure inventories.

1916—Transferred to Indianapolis store as assistant manager, under the supervision of R. G. Forshee.

1917—July 7, enlisted in the U. S. Army ambulance corps No. 149 and stationed at Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, Miss.

1918—August 5, transferred to an officer's training camp at Waco, Tex.

1918—October 23, received honorable discharge from army.

1918—November 15, went back on floor at Indianapolis, Ind., under the supervision of H. L. Von Tress, and a few months later Mr. Cook assumed charge.

1919—October 15, mother passed away. This, the most trying part of a person's life.

1920—January 14, received telegram to report to Elkhart, Ind. store to help with opening.

1920—January 27, received contract for Elkhart store, and very much pleased with the outlook.